



# BRITAIN, TURKEY SIGN DEFENSE DEAL TO DEVELOP TURKISH FIGHTER JET

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**Britain and Turkey signed a defense deal worth more than 100 million pounds on Saturday to develop Turkish fighter jets, opening the way to deeper cooperation over the lifetime of the project.**

**In Ankara to strengthen ties with Turkey as she navigates Britain's departure from the European Union, Prime Minister Theresa May hailed the deal, saying it showed "that Britain is a great, global, trading nation and that we are open for business".**

**The deal, announced by May and Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim, involves BAE Systems and TAI (Turkish Aerospace Industries) working together to develop the TF-X Turkish fighter program.**

BAE Systems chief executive, Ian King, said the deal was the next step in deepening defense cooperation.

"It will also pave the way for a deeper defense partnership and could effectively make the UK

Turkey's partner of choice, positioning it as a key aerospace technology exporter to Turkey," he said in a statement.

"The wider program could see the UK win contracts to provide engines, weapons, radars and sensors."

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**SOURCE: REUTERS**

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